

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants submit that all of these groups define a single invention. Applicants submit that DNA encoding an uracil-DNA glycosylase and a microorganism comprising thereof should be examined with claims to the uracil-DNA glycosylase and the claims for the method of making the uracil-DNA glycosylase and the methods of use of a uracil-DNA glycosylase because of the subject matter of these claims is related.

If the Examiner does not agree with this, Applicants submit that at least the claims of groups I, III and IV should be examined together as they all relate to uracil-DNA glycosylase.

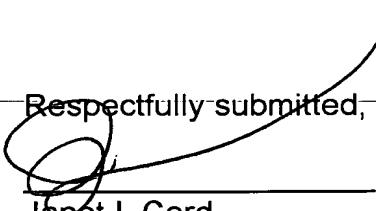
If the Examiner still does not agree with this, Applicants submit that the claims of groups I and IV namely claims 1-5, 15 and 16 should all be examined together as they relate to uracil-DNA glycosylase and a method of use of uracil-DNA glycosylase.

In the event that the Examiner still maintains the Restriction Action as set out in the Official Action of July 9, 2002, applicants elect the claims of group I, namely claims 1-5. For the reasons stated above, this election is made with traverse.

Applicants preserve all rights to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Accordingly, applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Janet I. Cord
C/o Ladas & Parry
26 West 61st Street
New York, NY 10023
Reg. No. 33,778 (212) 708-1935